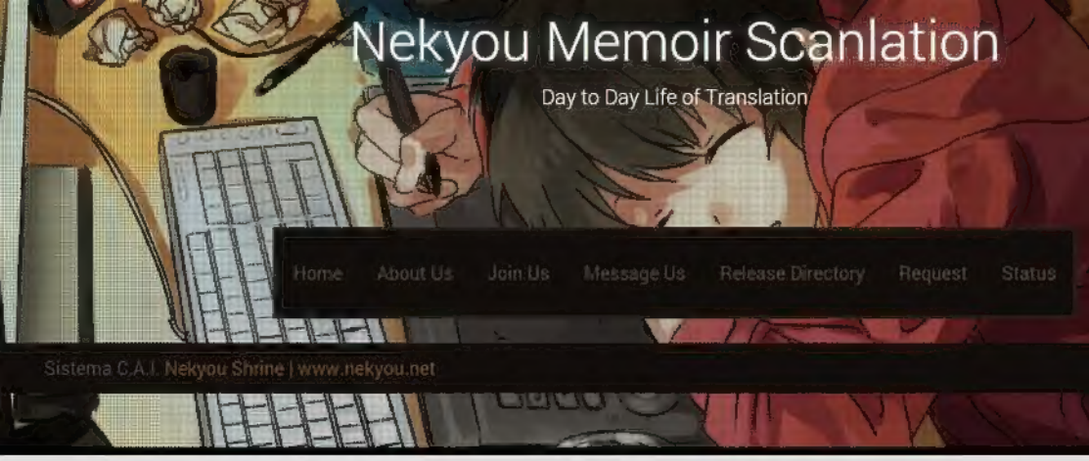

Made possible by the following staffs:

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LET'S GO TO THE HOT SPRINGS!
EEER... MASTER...
WEREN'T WE SUPPOSED TO GO BACK AS FAST AS POSSIBLE?
WHAT?
HOT SPRI-NGS?
TOMORROW WON'T BE TOO LATE TO PUT OUR LIVES ON THE LINE IN BATTLE.
NOW NOW, WE MIGHT AS WELL TAKE IT EASY WHILE WE'RE HERE, DON'T YOU THINK?
.....
...THAT GUY...
YOU KNOW, BEING THIS DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS, WE WOULDN'T MAKE IT FOR THE LAST TRAIN.
WELL, YES THAT WAS THE PLAN, BUT...
.....

I WANT YOU...
BUT...
TO STOP BEING MY CONTRACTOR.

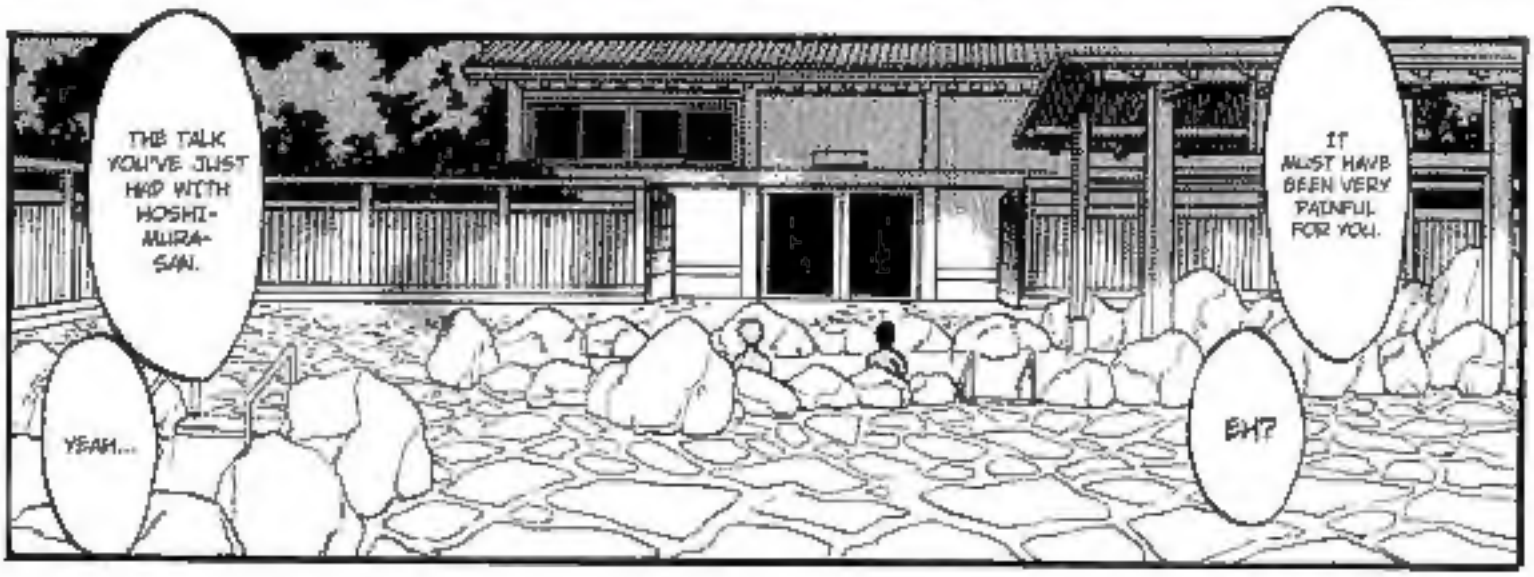
TOMORROW... IT STARTS TOMORROW.
AND I WILL... BE FIGHTING, TOO.

YOU'RE GOING TO GET DIZZY, YOU KNOW.

?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, OORI?

!
TAKAMASA-SAN...
SCARS!?

.....


THE TALK YOU'VE JUST HAD WITH HOSHI-MURA-SAN.
YEAH...
IT MUST HAVE BEEN VERY PAINFUL FOR YOU.
EH?

YES, BUT...

RESCIND YOUR CONTRACT MEANS SHE DOESN'T THINK AS LITTLE OF YOU AS SHE SAYS.
THOUGH SHE MAY HAVE LISTENED TO UMEHARA-SENSEI'S WORDS, THE FACT THAT SHE DID NOT FORCE HIM TO

TRY NOT TO THINK TOO DEEPLY ABOUT IT.

THE THINGS HOSHIMURA-SAN SEEKS OR WHAT SHE DESIRES, I DON'T GET THEM.
NOT ONE BIT.
I'M REALLY CONFUSED.
I...

WELL, I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THAT.

IT JUST... COMES TO ME SOME-HOW.

WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER FOR A LONG TIME, AFTER ALL.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, TAKA-MASA-SAN? ARE THEY CLEAR TO YOU?

ITSUKI-SAN'S IN-TENTIONS, OR WHAT SHE'S THINKING ABOUT.

HMM... MMNNN...

THEN DOES THAT MEAN THE ONLY THING I LACK IS EXPERIENCE?

HMM...

I'D SAY YOU'D BE ABOUT RIGHT IF WE'RE TALKING ABOUT NORMAL EVERYDAY LIVES.

UNDER-STAND...

YOU MEAN HOSHI-MURA-SAN?

YOU HAVE TO UNDER-STAND RIGHT AWAY.

HOW-EVER,

OORI, AS A CONTRACTED MONK, THAT'S A WHOLE DIFFERENT STORY.

NO...

THE GIRL RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES IS A CORPSE PRINCESS... THAT'S WHAT YOU HAVE TO UNDER-STAND.

THAT SHE IS NO LONGER HUMAN,

BUT AN "ANOMALY" WHO EXISTS ONLY FOR THE SAKE OF KILLING CORPSES.

LIES A DARK AND DEEP GAP NO RIGHTEOUS MIND COULD EVER SURMISE.

BETWEEN US CONTRACTED MONKS AND OUR CORPSE PRINCESSES...

I LOST MANY THINGS I HELD DEAR...

BEFORE I FINALLY REALIZED THE TRUTH.

YOU SEE, THESE SCARS OF MINE...

THEY'RE A MOMENTO OF THE PRICE I HAD TO PAY FOR MY IGNORANCE.

YOU TOOK A GLIMPSE... AT THE ABYSS.

AS IF LOOKING THROUGH A HOLE IN A FENCE, YOU SAW HER DARK-NESS...

YOU EXPERIENCED IT YOURSELF BACK THEN, RIGHT?

YOU CAN ONLY COMPLY. YOU HAVE NO SAY IN THE MATTER.

THIS REQUEST IS NOT NEGOTIABLE.

SEEMS LIKE YOU COULDN'T GET WHAT MY WORDS IMPLIED

THE POWER OF THE CORPSE PRINCESSES IS ABNORMAL.

RIGHT NOW, HOSHI-MURA-SAN IS ENGROSSED BY THAT POWER.

IF SHE DOES NOT REALIZE THIS NOW,

YOU MIGHT COME TO BEAR WOUNDS EVEN WORSE THAN MINE.

!

...YEAH

THE SAME... "PAIN".

BUT I...

AFTER ALL, BOTH OF YOU SHARE THE SAME "PAIN" AND "REGRET".

BUT... I HAVE HIGH EXPECTATIONS OF YOU.

そぼぼぼぼ

FU FU FU!

HE WENT SO FAR AS TO PREPARE A SNORKEL AND WAIT FOR THIS MOMENT...?

YOU SEEM TO BE TROUBLED, YOUNG MAN!

I HEARD EVERY THING!

ぱく ぱく

.....

I CAN'T IMAGINE HER DOING THAT THOUGH.

GET CLOSER... YOU SAY?

GULP.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS MAKE HER WANT TO GET CLOSER TO YOU.

IN SUCH CASES, YOU'VE GOT TO STOP OVER-THINKING.

AND THE PROBLEM'S SOLVED.

IN OTHER WORDS,

HMPH...

YES,

THE "MIXED BATH"!

SURE KILL, DREAM WORLD!

WHA? IT'S NOT PEEPING! AS LONG AS WE GET PERMISSION FROM THE GIRLS ANYWHERE'S A MIXED BATH, I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW!

AS A REMINDER, PEEPING IS A CRIME, MASTER.

HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE A CLERGY-MAN...

WHAT AN AWFUL DISCIPLE...

THAT'S BECAUSE I KNEW THAT WHEN YOUR FACE GETS ALL SERIOUS, YOU'RE ABOUT TO SAY SOMETHING STUPID.

RIGHT...

TAKA-MASA, YOU HIT ME FOR REAL!

YOU...

UW-AA-AI

WAIT A SECOND!

YE... YES.

BESIDES I WANNA DRINK MILK

LET'S GO, OORI.

I SWEAR... YOU'RE WASTING OUR TIME.

ALRIGHT, I GOT IT!

THEN LET'S GO WITH THIS PLAN!

BASICALLY... IT'S FINE AS LONG AS NOBODY COMPLAINS AND THE GIRLS ARE HAPPY, RIGHT?

.....

MMM-MNH! ♪
HUH? MAKINA-CHAN, IS IT JUST ME OR DID YOU ALSO FEEL THAT CREEPY AURA JUST NOW?
I CAN'T SAY I DID.

!

TELL ME.

WHAT KIND OF MAN WAS THIS KEIGEI?

.....

THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO ASK YOU ABOUT HIM. WAS IT WRONG OF ME?

THIS PREIST TAGAMI.

SEEMS LIKE HE AND TAKA-MASA KNEW EACH OTHER BUT I MYSELF KNOW CLOSE TO NOTHING ABOUT

AND BESIDES, IT MAKES ME CURIOUS.

BUT HE'S NOT HERE RIGHT NOW

JUST WHAT KIND OF MAN WAS HE FOR MAKINA-CHAN TO LIKE HIM SO MUCH?

DEEPEN YOUR REGRET.

THE TRUTH IS, KIWAMIYA-SAN TRIED TO STOP ME FROM ASKING SAYING THAT ASKING YOU WOULD ONLY

OH HO ~ NOW THAT'S A FRESH REACTION!

SHE'S LIKE AN OPEN BOOK

I JUST HAPPENED TO FALL INTO THIS CONDITION AT THE SAME TIME BY CHANCE, THAT'S ALL.

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M FOND OF HIM ALL THAT MUCH.

IT'S...

.....

.HOWEVER

I GUESS... YOU COULD SAY HE ACTED AS MY SUPPORT.

SINCE MY WHOLE FAMILY HAD BEEN MURDERED,

I HAD NOTHING LEFT TO RELY ON, AND AS MY CONTRACTOR, HE BECAME THE LAST SUPPORT I COULD CLING ON TO.

.....

ITSUKI-SAN, IT WAS THE SAME FOR YOU, WASN'T IT?

WAS TAKAMASA'S "TITLE".

THE FIRST THING I CAME TO RELY ON AFTER BECOMING A CORPSE PRINCESS

SUPPORT HUH. ?

IN TAKAMASA'S FAMILY THE TITLE OF "GENPAKU" IS PASSED DOWN FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION. THAT'S JUST HOW PRESTIGIOUS THEY ARE AS A MILITARY FAMILY EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE MONKS.

YES

HIS "TITLE"

YOU SAY ?

TL NOTE. GENPAKU KANJI READS "STRING RHYTHM"

IF I FAILED TO DO SO, MY WEAK SELF COULD NEVER ENDURE CONTINUOUSLY DEFEATING

CORPSES UNTIL I GO TO HEAVEN... THAT'S WHAT I SINCERELY THOUGHT.

UNTIL THEN. I HAD NEVER GOTTEN INTO A FIGHT

AND I WAS NOT WHAT YOU WOULD CALL THE ATHLETIC TYPE

SO I WAS DETERMINED TO FORM A CONTRACT WITH THIS "GENPAKU"

IS THAT REALLY SOMETHING TO LAUGH ABOUT ?

STUPID, RIGHT?

TAKA-MASA IN HIGH SCHOOL

BEGINNER'S MARK

BUT I WAS TOO IMPAT-IENT

I FORMED A CONTRACT WITH TAKAMASA WHEN HE WAS STILL A NORMAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WHO HAD JUST INHERITED THE TITLE OF "GENPAKU"

I ENDED UP PLACING A HUGE BURDEN ON TAKAMASA'S SHOULDERS.

AND BECAUSE OF MY IGN-ORANCE,

I DIDN'T HAVE A CLUE

REALLY

BACK THEN ALL I EVER THOUGHT ABOUT WAS MYSELF

THERE HAD TO BE ANOTHER WAY, A BETTER ONE. A WAY TO MAKE OUR BOND EVEN STRONGER YOU KNOW?

THINKING BACK ABOUT THAT TIME.

I REALLY DID SOME-THING HOR-RIBLE TO HIM.

BUT...

OH, REA-...Y?

NOW THAT IT'S COME TO THIS.

IN THAT CASE

MY LINK WITH OORI WILL PROBABLY KEEP GROWING WEAKER.

THOUGH RIGHT NOW IT SEEMS LIKE BOTH OF YOU ARE BEING STUBBORN AND THAT LED TO MISUNDER-STANDINGS.

I GOT A FEELING THAT, AS A CORPSE PRINCESS AND HER CONTRACTOR WHO LIKE THE SAME PERSON, YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO CREATE AN EXTREMELY STRONG BOND

WHAT

WHA..

WH..

A.. AROH! THAT WAS.. WELL..

BUT WHEN YOU WERE CHANGING EARLIER THE THING YOU PUT AWAY WITH SUCH CARE THOSE WERE KEISEI'S SUN-GLASSES, WEREN'T THEY?

EEE-EH?

YOU'RE WRONG! TO ME, KEISEI WAS JUST A COMRADE IN ARMS AND...

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

I'VE GOT EVERYTHING FROM SAKE AND MILK TO HOT SPRING BUNS AND HOT SPRING EGGS!

(YOU HAVE TO BE 20 TO ASK FOR SAKE)

HELLOOOO-OOOO! HERE COMES THE IN BATH SALES-MAN (GREAT STRATEGY)!!

KYAA! KYAA!
PARADISE
DEMON
SACRIFICE
AAAARGH!

TAKA-MASA-SAN.

JUST NOW I THINK I HEARD THE CRY OF SOME AGONIZING BEAST

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. IT WAS MOST LIKELY MASTER GETTING ANNIHILATED BY SAWAMIYA-SAN WHO WAS STANDING GUARD IN FRONT OF THE WOMEN'S BATH.

I KNEW IT WOULD COME TO THIS.

. THAT ASIDE..

SHI RAE...

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?

YES.

I WAS THERE TOO, SO THERE'S NO MISTAKING IT

FROM THE RESULTS OF THEIR QUESTIONING, THE POLICE WERE ABLE TO DETERMINE THAT ALL OF THEM HAVE LOST THEIR PREVIOUS MEMORIES BEFORE THEIR DISAPPEARANCE AND HAVE UNDERGONE A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN PERSONALITY

THEY REFER TO THEMSELVES AS "HUMAN FORMS"

70 PERCENT OF THE PEOPLE WHO WERE ARRESTED THESE LAST FOUR DAYS IN IKA AND YANATSU DISTRICTS WERE SUBJECT TO A POLICE SEARCH IN OTHER PREFECTURES

BUT THE RESIDUAL SPIRITUAL BODY WE KNOW AS A "DEAD SPIRIT"

[illegible] A MERCILESS SPELL WAS USED, WE FOUND OUT THAT INSIDE OF THEM WERE NOT THEIR ORIGINAL [illegible] AND SOULS.

TAKA-MASA-SAN.

UNDERSTOOD PLEASE STAY VIGILANT IN CASE SOME-THING ELSE HAPPENS

WE WILL JOIN THE INVESTIGATIONS AS SOON AS WE ARRIVE THERE

ROGER THAT

SEEMS LIKE THE ORDER'S HEADQUARTERS INTUITION WAS RIGHT UNFORT-UNATELY

THE "UNCLEAN BUNCH"'S NEXT OBJECTIVE IS TO TAKE CONTROL OF THE LAND IN YAMA DISTRICT BY SOILING IT BEFORE THEY ATTACK

THE FIRST THING THEY INTEND TO DO IS STIR UP THE FEAR AND ANXIETY OF THE INHABITANTS OF IKAI AND TSUNAYU DISTRICTS, SINCE THEY'RE LOCATED ON THE BORDERS OF THE YAMA DISTRICT

.....

THIS CAN'T BE!

THEN THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE. WE NEED TO...

I KNOW

IT'S NATURAL FOR YOU TO WANT TO HELP YOUR FRIENDS WHEN THEY'RE IN DANGER. HOW-EVER, NOW IS THE TIME YOU NEED TO KEEP YOUR COMPOSURE

IF YOU DON'T YOU WILL BASILY GET CAUGHT IN THE ENEMY'S TRAP.

I WILL PROTECT EVERYONE WITH MY OWN HANDS.

IT'S THE REASON WHY I FOLLOWED MY BROTHER'S FOOTSTEPS

THAT'S RIGHT I HAVE TO KEEP CALM.

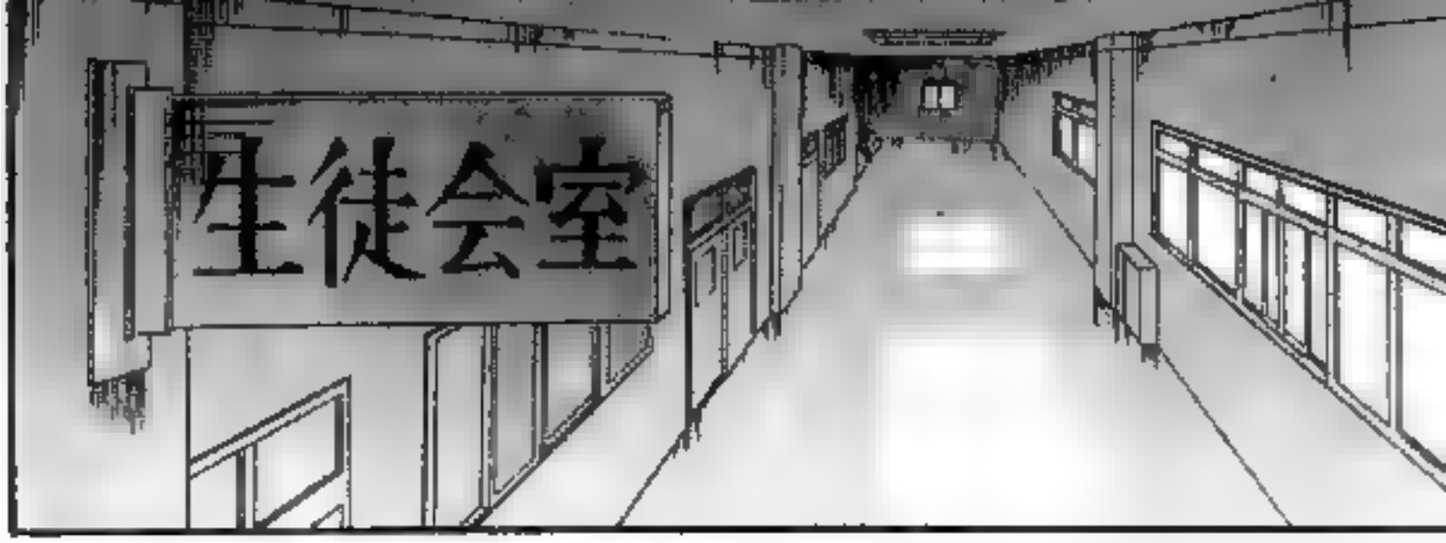
YES!

FIRST THINGS FIRST LET'S HOLD A MEETING REGARDING OUR STRATEGY FROM TOMORROW ONWARDS.

THEN WE'LL BE ABLE TO MOVE AS SOON AS WE ARRIVE OVER THERE

EVEN THEN, IF I MUST UNDERSTAND HOSHIMURA-SAN, I'LL...

EVEN IF I'VE NEVER EXPERIENCED WHAT TAKAMASA-SAN WAS TALKING ABOUT

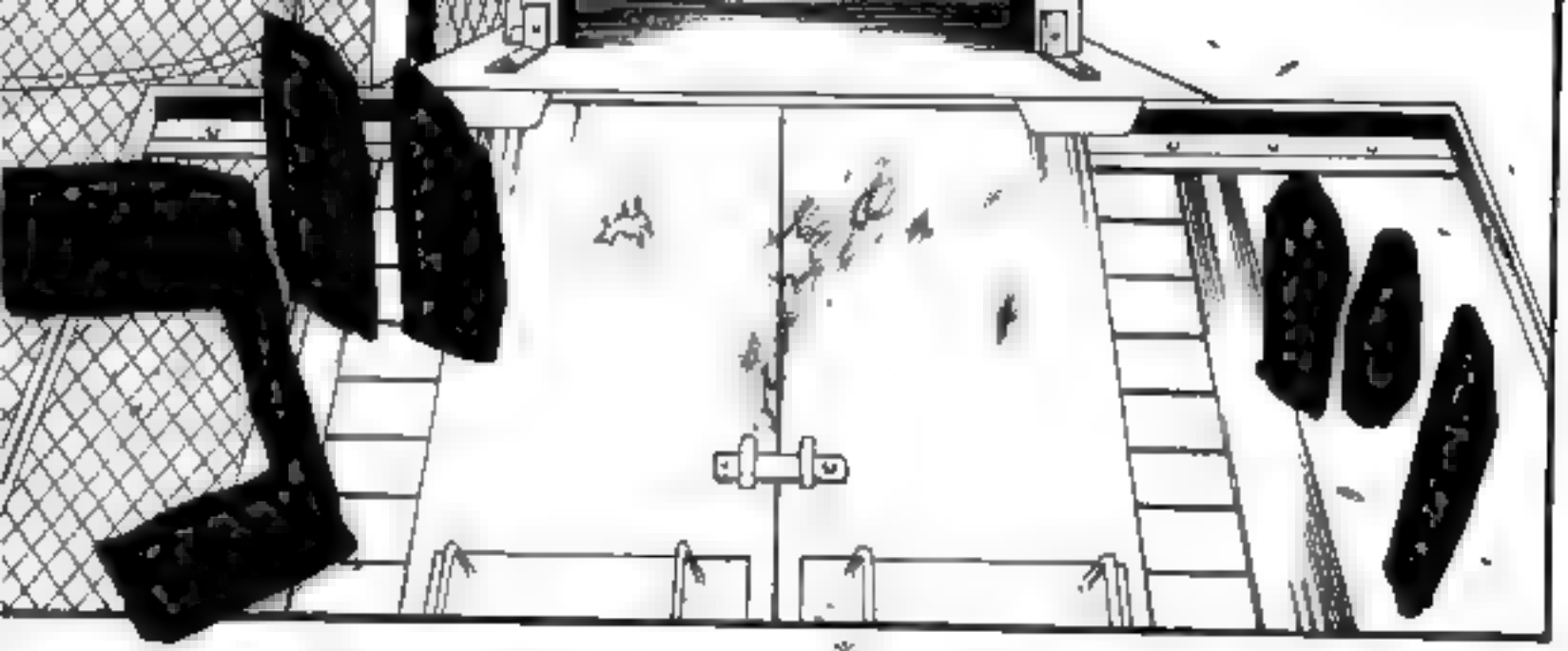

生徒会室

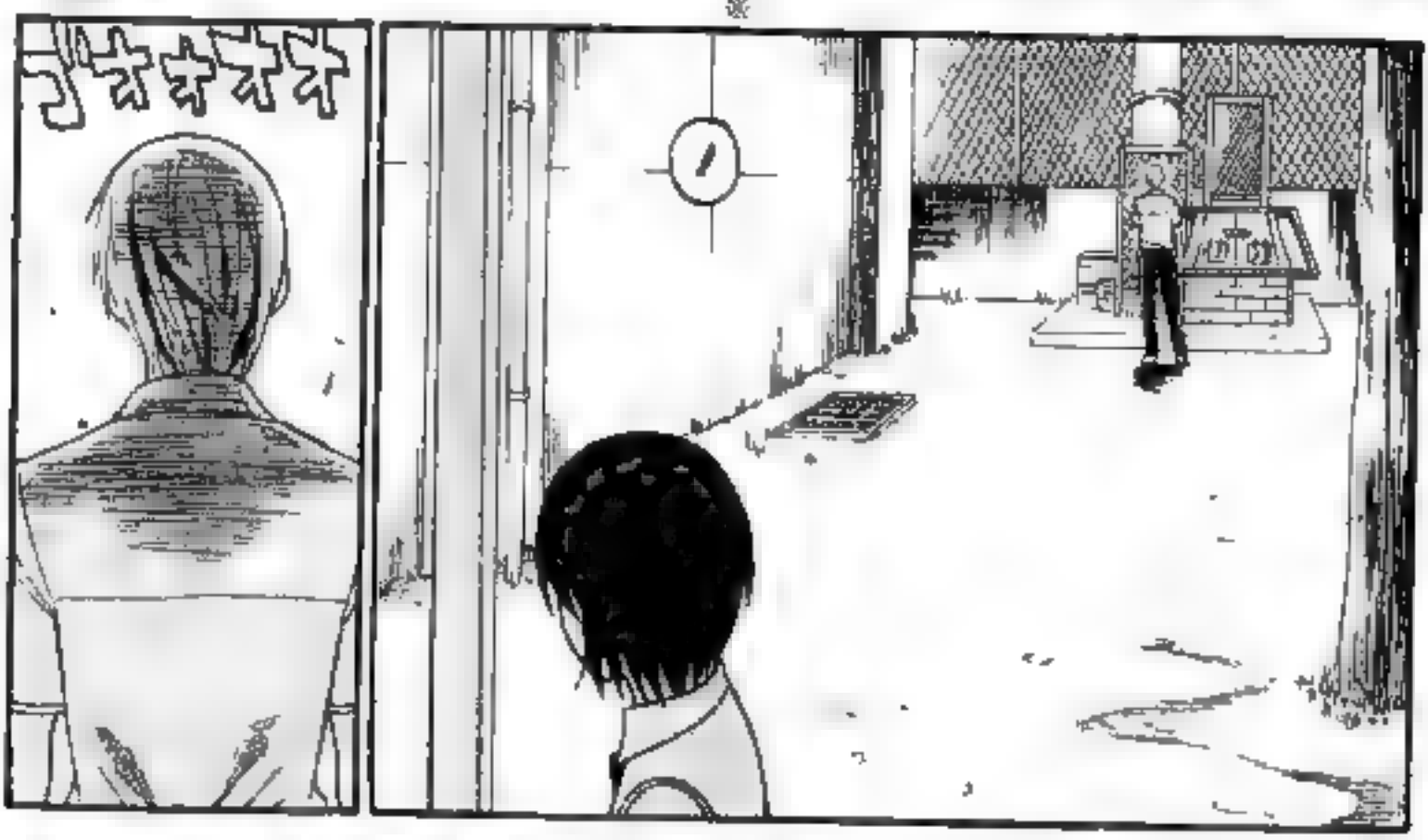
TO ALL INHABITANTS OF THESE DISTRICTS, PLEASE BE EXTRA CAREFUL WHENEVER YOU ARE GOING OUT
NEXT NEWS.
I MADE SURE TO LOCK THE DOOR, IT'S FINE IF I TELL YOU.

REGARDING THE RECENT OUTBREAK OF AGGRESSION OCCURING IN THE DISTRICTS OF SEIJO AND FANATSU
NO LINK HAS BEEN FOUND BETWEEN THE VICTIMS AND MOST OF THEM APPEAR TO SUFFER FROM MEMORY LOSS.
THE POLICE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR COUNTERMEASURES.
YES.
YES, I'M FINE, INUHIKO.

LET'S SAY IT'S A REWARD FOR EVEN COMING TO SCHOOL DURING THE BREAK
YAHOO! I DID IT! IT'S A PROMISE, RIGHT?

THAT A-SIDE WHEN I'M DONE HERE, TAKE ME TO THE KARAOKE THE KARAOKE!
OH, COME ON! THERE'S STILL TEN DAYS OF SUMMER BREAK LEFT

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HEY
ARE YOU LISTENING, ?

HEY, YOU THERE!
STUDENTS ARE FORBIDDEN FROM USING THE INCINERATOR WITHOUT PERMISSION.
.....

SOME ONE'S USING IT WITHOUT PERMISSION AGAIN.
THE INCINERATOR?

!?

HIII!

JUST NOW...

.....

WHAT? AN ILL- USION?

HUH?

AH...

WHAT ?

?
THAT SOUND
!!?
HII-III!
A DOG!?

AAH..

DON'T MAKE A RACKET

IF YOU DO .

I'LL BURN YOU, TOO...

HIII..

HII!

AAH!

※

JUST STAND THERE WITHOUT RAISING YOUR VOICE LIKE AN IDIOT

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO END UP LIKE THAT

HAA

HAA!

HIII..

IT SEEMS THAT SHITTY DOG WAS THE JANITOR'S

EVEN "BEFORE" EVERYTIME HE SAW ME, HE WOULD BARK THAT REALLY PISSED ME OFF.

SERVES YOU RIGHT!

HIHA-EHAHA-HAHA...

LOOK AT IT! I ROASTED IT PERFECTLY, DON'T YOU THINK?

MY MOOD'S GOTTEN MUUUCH BETTER!

AFTER I BURNED IT,

HIII

WILL TAKE EVERYTHING I DESIRE

AND I WILL KILL ANYONE I WANT!!

THAT'S.

THAT'S WHY I WON'T HOLD BACK AT SCHOOL ANYMORE

AH, I THOUGHT SELF CONTROL'S NO GOOD

IT ONLY LEADS TO REGRETS.

THAT'S THE MANIFESTATION OF YOUR IMPURITY, CAN'T YOU SEE IT?

YOUR ARROGANCE,

THAT IS

WHAT'S MORE...

IT'S THE REAL THING!

EEK!

A GUN?!

THAT PERSON...

HYAHAHA-HAHAHA!!

HA!

.....

SO WHAT?

TURNED OUT LIKE THIS BECAUSE I WANTED TO. GOT A PROBLEM WITH THAT? HUH?!

MY ARRO-GANCE, YOU SAY?

WHOOPS.

THIS WON'T DO!

HIS NECK!

!!

HIII!

THE SPIRIT OF A DEAD PERSON ATTACHED TO A CORPSE,

THE "UNCLEAN BUNCH"'S NEXT TRICK

YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE "HUMAN FORMS", RIGHT?

SO YOU'RE MAKINA HOSHI-MURA.

THAT'S RIGHT!

AND THAT CONTRACTOR YOU KILLED

ABOUT YOU

I KNOW A LOT...

AND SO, BACK THEN I THOUGHT
WE WERE THERE WHEN THAT MAN WAS KILLED
WE SAW IT!
HYA-HAHAHA HA!
HI!
US GHOSTS ARE EVERY-WHERE, AFTER ALL!

YOU...
WEREN'T YOU IN THE RIGHT TO LET HIM DIE?
!!

Ku.

KUKU-KU HA HA HA.

DID I HIT A NERVE?

EVERY-THING WENT FOR THE BEST, NO?

ALMOST TO THE POINT WHERE YOU COULD EXACT REVENGE ON YOUR OWN.

I MEAN, AFTER THAT YOUR POWER HAS INCREASED TO A WHOLE NEW LEVEL.

SHUT UP!

.....

SHUT UP!!!

THAT'S...

KE-HAHA-HAHA-HAHA! WHOA, WHOA!

KE-

...THE "CURSE"...

NOW WHO'S IMPURE, I WONDER?

RIGHT?

※

!!

SO FAST!

GAH!

DON'T THINK THIS IS OVER!
I WILL "COME BACK" AGAIN!
GA-HA!
HA! DON'T...
HIII!
!!

...SEE YOU LATER, MAKINA HOSHI-MURA.
BUT AS LONG AS A POOL OF VESSELS IS PREPARED, WE'LL ALWAYS COME BACK.
WE'RE NOT AS TOUGH AS YOUR KIND OF CORPSES, NOR DO WE HAVE YOUR REGENERATIVE ABILITIES.
WE HUMAN FORMS MAY BE ATTACHED TO DEAD BODIES, BUT WE HAVE NO ATTACHMENT TOWARD A BODY IN PARTICULAR.

AND DON'T YOU FORGET
OUR LITTLE TALK.
!?

KYA-
AH!!

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS, HOSHIMURA-SAN?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

HUFF

HUFF

HER "CURSE" WAS NOTHING MORE THAN A TRIGGER.

OR YOU COULD HAVE DESTROYED THE SKULL PARTS THAT CAME FLYING AT HER.

YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO STOP IT.

THAT FINAL EXPLOSION,

HER "ANOMALY".

DIDN'T NOTICE.

I JUST...

THAT'S RIGHT.

AT THAT TIME, I FINALLY UNDERSTOOD.

OH, RIGHT.

IT WAS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE THINGS I HAD COME TO UNDERSTAND UNTIL THEN.

THAT "ANOMALY"... WAS THE TRUE NATURE THAT HAD BEEN LYING DORMANT INSIDE HOSHIMURA-SAN,

AND THE CURSE HAD AWAKENED IT.

TIRED OF WAITING?

WANT TO SEE THE NEXT CHAPTER?

JOIN US NOW!